

REMARKS

By the *Office Action* of 20 August 2004, Claims 1-48 are pending in this Application, with Claims 1-44 being allowed and Claims 45-48 rejected. Applicant respectfully thanks the Examiner for the allowance of Claims 1-44.

The Examiner objects to the *Specification* for claiming priority to U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/790,150. The Examiner properly notes that the Benefits paragraph has a typographical error, and that the priority claim should refer to U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/704,150. Applicant respectfully thanks the Examiner for carefully reviewing the *Specification* and discovering the priority claim typographical error.

By the present *Response and Amendment*, Applicant cancels rejected Claims 45-48, amends claims 26, 27, and 43 to correct typographical errors, and amends the *Specification* as kindly suggested by the Examiner.

No new matter is believed introduced by the present *Response and Amendment*. It is respectfully submitted that the present Application is in condition for allowance for the following reasons.

1. Docket Number and Change in Correspondence Address

Applicant respectfully requests the docket number of this Application be changed from 81607-1130 to STAT1130. The prosecution of this Application has been transferred to a new law firm, and its docketing procedures require this new docket number. A *Revocation and Appointment of Power of Attorney* to the present firm, and a *Change of Correspondence Address* were filed in the USPTO on 26 October 2004 to reflect that the new law firm is now prosecuting this Application.

2. Preliminary Amendment

The Application was filed 19 March 2001. A *Preliminary Amendment* was filed 6 April 2001. Applicant notes that the *Office Action* is responsive to the communication filed 19 March 2001. Thus, Applicant was unsure if the pending Claim set is the one filed originally with the Application, or the one as presented in the *Preliminary Amendment*.

During a 2 November 2004 telephone conference with the Examiner, the Examiner indicated that the pending Claim set is the one provided in the 6 April 2001 *Preliminary Amendment*, and Applicant thanks the Examiner for the clarification.

3. The Specification

Applicant has amended the Benefits paragraph of the *Specification* as suggested by the Examiner. Specifically, the paragraph is amended to correct the priority claim to claim priority to U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/704,150.

4. The Claims.

The Claims as presented in the *Preliminary Amendment* are pending.

Claims 1-44 are allowed.

Claims 45-48 are cancelled.

Applicant amends Claims 26, 27 and 43 merely to correct typographical errors discovered upon reviewing these Claims.

5. Fees

No Claims fees are believed due, as the total number of Claims, and independent Claims, are less than the number of Claims paid for during prosecution of this case.

Further, this *Response and Amendment* is being filed within three months of the *Office Action*. Thus, it is believed no extension of time fees are due.

Nonetheless, authorization to charge deposit account No. 20-1507 is given herein should fees be due.

CONCLUSION

By the present *Response and Amendment*, the Application has been in placed in full condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully request early and favorable action. Should the Examiner have any questions or reservations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned Attorney at 404.885.2773.

Certificate of Transmission.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being submitted by facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office at 703.872.9306 in accordance with §1.8 on this date, and the correspondence includes a certificate for each piece of correspondence stating the date of transmission. The person signing the certificate has a reasonable basis to expect that the correspondence will be transmitted on or before the date indicated.

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3 November 2004
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